

# NEWS RELEASE

May 16, 2008 @ noon

Contact: Steve Sautter  
Public Information Officer  
(509) 628-8470 (Office)  
(509) 539-0312 (Cell)

## Advance flood precautions

Richland, Wash: With Yakima River levels rising, residents along the river should be taking some actions now in advance of the expected flood waters. These Include:

- Livestock should be moved to areas away from the river
- Boats stored along or near the river should be moved to preclude them from floating down the river
- Fuel or fertilizer tanks/barrels should be moved away from the river.

In addition, individuals and families should have evacuation plans in place as well as having emergency supplies that can be taken along during an evacuation. That would include enough food, water, clothing and medication to last for three days.

The rivers in our area are a natural draw during hot weather. Local officials urge residents to stay away from the rising waters in the Yakima River. The increased level and flow makes the river extremely dangerous. In addition, the high waters will bring debris down the river. As this high water event progresses, the debris may flow into the Columbia River creating a boating hazard. Boaters on the Columbia will need to take appropriate precautions.

Information on flood precautions for local residents can be found on the Benton County Emergency Services website at [www.bces.wa.gov](http://www.bces.wa.gov).

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